

(1390 REV. 5-93) US DEPT. OF COMMERCE PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 105928
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, sec 37 C.F.R.1.5) 09/530099
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP99/04752	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE September 1, 1999	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED September 2, 1998
TITLE OF INVENTION LIGHT SOURCE AND DISPLAY DEVICE		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Osamu YOKOYAMA, Satoru MIYASHITA, Tatsuya SHIMODA, Yasunori TAGA, Shizuo TOKITO, and Koji NODA		
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1). 4. <input type="checkbox"/> A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date. 5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) a. <input type="checkbox"/> is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been transmitted by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US) 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)). 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)) a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been transmitted by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. 8. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)). 9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)). 10. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)). Items 11. to 16. below concern other document(s) or information included: 11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. 12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included. 13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment. 14. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification. 15. <input type="checkbox"/> A small entity statement. 16. <input type="checkbox"/> Other items or information:		

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37
C.F.R. 1.5) **09/530099**INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.
PCT/JP99/04752ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER
10592817. ☐ The following fees are submitted:

CALCULATIONS

PTO USE ONLY

Basic National fee (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(5)):

Search Report has been prepared by the EPO or JPO.....\$840.00

International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO
(37 CFR 1.482).....\$670.00No international preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO
(37 CFR 1.482) but international search fee paid to USPTO
(37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)).....\$690.00Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR
1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2))
paid to USPTO.....\$970.00International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO
(37 CFR 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT
Article 33(2)-(4).....\$ 96.00**ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =**

\$840

Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than
☐ 20 ☐ 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR
1.492(e)).

\$

Claims	Number Filed	Number Extra	Rate
Total Claims	29 - 20 =	9	X \$ 18.00
Independent Claims	6 - 3 =	3	X \$ 78.00
Multiple dependent claim(s)(if applicable)			+ \$260.00

\$162

\$234

\$

TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =

\$1,236

Reduction by 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. Verified Small
Entity Statement must also be filed. (Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28). -

\$

SUBTOTAL =

\$1,236

Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later
than ☐ 20 ☐ 30 month from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR
1.492(f)). +

\$

TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =

\$1,236

Amount to be
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\$

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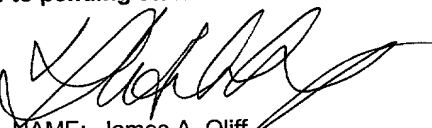
- a. ☒ Check No. 108060 in the amount of \$1,236 to cover the above fees is enclosed.
- b. ☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$_____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- c. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 15-0461. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.

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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
In re the Application of

Osamu YOKOYAMA et al.

Application No.: U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP99/04752

Filed: April 25, 2000

Docket No.: 105928

For: LIGHT SOURCE AND DISPLAY DEVICE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please substitute the attached Abstract for the Abstract currently in the application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, line 1, delete "DESCRIPTION";

between lines 3 and 4, insert—BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--;

line 4, change "Technical Field" to --1. Field of the Invention--; and

line 9, change "Background Art" to --2. Description of Related Art--.

Page 2, line 14, change "Disclosure of Invention" to —SUMMARY OF THE

INVENTION--.

Page 4, line 15, change "comprising" to —that may include—; and

line 25, change "comprising" to —that may include—.

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Page 5, line 17, change "comprising" to —that may include—.

Page 8, line 11, change "Brief Description of the Drawings" to—BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--.

Page 9, line 8, change "Best Mode for Carrying Out the Invention" to—DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--;

line 14, change "comprising" to —that includes—;

line 15, change "comprising" to —that include the—;

line 16, change "comprises" to —includes—;

line 22, change "comprising" to —that includes—; and

line 25, change "comprising" to —that includes—.

Page 10, line 3, change "comprising" to —that includes—.

Page 13, line 7, change "comprises" to —includes—; and

line 18, change "comprises" to —includes—.

Page 19, line 13, change "comprising" to —that includes—.

Page 20, line 4, change "comprising" to —that includes—;

line 9, change "comprising" to —that include—;

line 11, change "comprising" to —that includes—; and

line 23, change "comprising" to —that includes—.

Page 21, line 1, change "comprising" to —that include—.

Page 23, line 1, change "CLAIMS" to—WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-20 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add claims 21-49 as follows:

--21. A light source, comprising:

a plurality of organic electroluminescent elements arrayed on a same substrate,
the plurality of organic electroluminescent elements emitting light simultaneously.--

--22. The light source according to claim 21, the plurality of organic
electroluminescent elements emitting light of one primary color.--

--23. The light source according to claim 21, the organic electroluminescent
elements comprising optical micro-resonators.--

--24. The light source according to claim 21, the organic electroluminescent
elements being formed on the substrate at the intersections of an anode formed in a striped
pattern in a first direction and a cathode formed in a striped pattern in a second direction
orthogonal to the first direction.--

--25. The light source according to claim 21, the organic electroluminescent
elements being one-dimensionally arrayed on the substrate.--

--26. The light source according to claim 21, the organic electroluminescent
elements being two-dimensionally arrayed on the substrate.--

--27. A display device for illuminating a display element, comprising:
the light source according to claim 21.--

--28. The display device according to claim 27, P being a distance between the
adjacent organic electroluminescent elements and D being a distance between each organic
electroluminescent element and the display surface of the display element, and a relationship
between D and P being such that D is 10 times P or more.--

--29. The display device according to claim 27, the display element being a liquid
crystal display element.--

--30. A display device, comprising:
a light source, comprising:

an organic electroluminescent element;

a display element illuminated by the light source; and

an optical system that enlarges and displays an image displayed in the display element, the organic electroluminescent element having a luminescent region having substantially the same size as that of a display area of the display element, and a pulse current being applied to the organic electroluminescent element to cause light emission.--

--31. The display device according to claim 30, the display element being a liquid crystal display element.--

--32. The display device according to claim 30, at least one of a peak current, a frequency, and a pulse width of the pulse current being controlled in order to adjust the luminance of the organic electroluminescent elements.--

--33. The display device according to claim 30, the organic electroluminescent elements having optical micro-resonator structures.--

--34. A display device, comprising:

a light source, comprising:

a first organic electroluminescent element that emits light in a red color range;

a second organic electroluminescent element that emits light in a green color range; and

a third organic electroluminescent element that emits light in a blue color range;

first, second and third display elements illuminated by their corresponding organic electroluminescent elements;

a combining optical system that combines images displayed in the first, second, and third display elements; and

an optical system that enlarges and displays the image combined by the combining optical system, the first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements having luminescent regions with substantially the same sizes as those of display areas of the first second, and third display elements, respectively, and a pulse current being applied to each of the first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements to cause light emission.--

--35. The display device according to claim 34, the display element being a liquid crystal display element.--

--36. The display device according to claim 34, at least one of a peak current, a frequency, and a pulse width of the pulse current being controlled in order to adjust the luminance of the organic electroluminescent elements.--

--37. The display device according to claim 34, at least one of a peak current, a frequency, and a pulse width of the pulse current applied to each of the first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements being controlled independently in order to adjust the color of the display image.--

--38. The display device according to claim 34, the organic electroluminescent elements having optical micro-resonator structures.--

--39. The display device according to claim 34, a pulse being applied to each of the first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements with the same timing.--

--40. A display device, comprising:
a light source comprising:

a first organic electroluminescent element that emits light in a red color range;

a second organic electroluminescent element that emits light in a green color range; and

a third organic electroluminescent element that emits light in a blue color range;

a combining optical system that combines light emitted from the individual organic electroluminescent elements;

a display element illuminated by the light combined by the combining optical system; and

an optical system that enlarges and displays the image displayed in the display element, the first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements having luminescent regions with substantially the same size as that of a display area of the display element, respectively, and a pulse current being applied to each of the first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements to cause light emission.

--41. The display device according to claim 40, the display element being a liquid crystal display element.--

--42. The display device according to claim 40, at least one of a peak current, a frequency, and a pulse width of the pulse current being controlled in order to adjust the luminance of the organic electroluminescent elements.--

--43. The display device according to claim 40, at least one of a peak current, a frequency, and a pulse width of the pulse current applied to each of the first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements being controlled independently in order to adjust the color of the display image.--

--44. The display device according to claim 40, the organic electroluminescent elements having optical micro-resonator structures.--

--45. The display device according to claim 40, a pulse being applied to each of the first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements with the same timing.--

--46. A display device, comprising:

a light source comprising a plurality of organic electroluminescent elements arrayed on the same substrate, the plurality of organic electroluminescent elements emitting light simultaneously;

a display element illuminated by the light source; and

an optical system that enlarges and displays an image displayed in the display element, a pulse current being applied to the organic electroluminescent elements in the light source to cause light emission.--

--47. A display device, comprising:

a first light source comprising a plurality of first organic electroluminescent elements arrayed on a same substrate that emit light in a red color range, the plurality of first organic electroluminescent elements emitting light simultaneously;

a second light source comprising a plurality of second organic electroluminescent elements arrayed on a same substrate that emit light in a green color range, the plurality of second organic electroluminescent elements emitting light simultaneously;

a third light source comprising a plurality of third organic electroluminescent elements arrayed on a same substrate that emit light in a blue color range, the plurality of third organic electroluminescent elements emitting light simultaneously;

at least one display element illuminated by the light sources comprising the organic electroluminescent elements; and

an optical system that enlarges and displays an image formed by the display element, a pulse current being applied to each of the organic electroluminescent elements so that the organic electroluminescent elements in the first light source, the organic electroluminescent elements in the second light source, and the third organic electroluminescent elements in the third light source, emit light.--

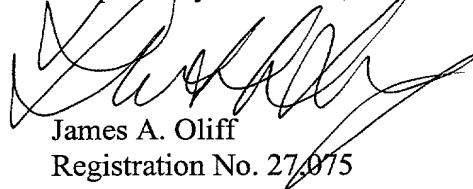
--48. The display device according to claim 47, a pulse being applied to each of the first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements with the same timing.--

--49. The display device according to claim 21, all of the organic electroluminescent elements on the substrate emitting light simultaneously.--

REMARKS

Claims 21-49 are pending. By this Amendment, the specification and Abstract are amended to be placed in proper U.S. format, claims 1-20 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 21-49 are added. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention provides electroluminescent (EL) elements, such that a red EL light source, a green EL light source and a blue EL light source emit red color light, green color light, and blue color light, respectively, and are disposed at the rear of liquid crystal display elements. Each EL light source includes an organic EL element in which an organic thin film emits light. Each EL light source has a structure in which an organic luminescent layer is sandwiched between an indium tin oxide (ITO) electrode and a metal electrode which have striped patterns which are orthogonal to each other, and sections (luminescent sections) at which the striped patterns of the ITO electrode and the metal electrode intersect with each other emit light. The luminescent sections are arrayed two-dimensionally on a glass substrate and illuminate the entire display area of the liquid crystal display element.

- 1 -

DESCRIPTION

LIGHT SOURCE AND DISPLAY DEVICETechnical Field

5 The present invention relates to a light source for illuminating a display element and to a method for operating the same, and also relates to a display device or a display apparatus for performing display by illuminating a display element by the light source.

Background Art

10 With respect to a technique for reducing the size of a projection liquid crystal display device which performs display by enlarging and projecting an image of a liquid crystal display element, Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 51-119243 can be referred to. This publication discloses the structure of a display device in which a liquid crystal display element is illuminated by a planar light source, such as an
15 electroluminescent element (hereinafter referred to as "EL element"), and an image displayed in the liquid crystal display element is enlarged and projected onto a screen by a lens.

20 Recently, with the development of organic EL elements having organic thin films as luminescent layers, the luminance is significantly increasing. An organic EL element can be an effective light source for constructing a small projection liquid crystal display device with increased brightness.

25 However, when the organic EL element is continuously operated with increased luminance, the luminance becomes greatly decreased. One of the reasons for this is believed to be that heat is generated by a current supplied for operating the organic EL element, and the accumulated heat increases the temperature of the element, resulting in

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changes in the structure and characteristics of the organic thin film.

On the other hand, as a conventional technique for suppressing a decrease in luminance of an organic EL element, Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 7-230880 discloses a technique in which an organic EL element is operated in a pulsed mode.

With respect to a display device in which a liquid crystal display element is illuminated by three organic EL elements for emitting red, green, and blue light corresponding to the three primary colors and an image displayed in the liquid crystal display element is enlarged for display, each organic EL element must emit light at a luminance as high as approximately 10,000 cd/m², and in order to correct the color balance according to a change in luminance of each color, the luminance of each organic EL element must be controlled independently.

Disclosure of Invention

The present invention has been achieved in view of the problems described above, and it is a first object of the present invention to provide a display device in which the accumulation of heat in a light source is suppressed, a decrease in luminance is suppressed, and a decrease in brightness of a display image is reduced using the light source.

It is a second object of the present invention to provide a display device, in particular, of the enlarged-display type, in which a decrease in luminance of a display image is reduced and the color balance can be corrected.

The first object described above is achieved by a light source or a display device according to any one of features (1) to (7) described below.

(1) A light source includes a plurality of organic electroluminescent elements one-

dimensionally or two-dimensionally arrayed on the same substrate. The plurality of organic electroluminescent elements emit light simultaneously.

In the light source according to (1), the accumulation of heat, which is generated when the light source for illuminating a wide area emits light, can be suppressed, and a decrease in the brightness of the light source can be suppressed.

(2) In a light source according to (1), the plurality of organic electroluminescent elements emit light of one primary color out of the three primary colors.

The light source according to (2) is a light source for emitting monochromatic light.

(3) In a light source according to either (1) or (2), the organic electroluminescent elements include optical micro-resonators.

In the light source according to (3), the peak of the intensity occurs in a specific wavelength, and light having strong directivity toward the front can be emitted.

(4) In a light source according to any one of (1) to (3), the organic electroluminescent elements are formed on the substrate at the intersections of an anode formed in a striped pattern in a first direction and a cathode formed in a striped pattern in a second direction orthogonal to the first direction.

In the light source according to (4), a light source having a simple structure in which luminescent elements are two-dimensionally arrayed discretely can be obtained easily.

(5) In a light source according to any one of (1) to (3), luminescent sections are one-dimensionally arrayed on the substrate.

In the light source according to (5), the area of the luminescent region is increased and the accumulation of heat during light emission is suppressed, and thus high luminance can be maintained.

(6) A display device illuminates a display element by a light source according to

any one of (1) to (5).

In the above display device, a high-performance display device can be obtained in which a decrease in luminance is lowered due to the features of the light source.

(7) In a display device according to (6), D is 10 times P or more, where P is a distance between the adjacent organic electroluminescent elements and D is a distance between each organic electroluminescent element and the display surface of the display element.

In the above display device, the spatial uniformity of illumination light for illuminating the display surface of the display element can be improved.

(8) In a display device according to either (6) or (7), the display element is a liquid crystal display element.

The above display device has high luminance in a simple structure.

The second object of the present invention is achieved by a display device according to any one of features (9) to (16) described below.

(9) A display device includes a light source comprising an organic electroluminescent element, a display element illuminated by the light source, and an optical system for enlarging and displaying an image displayed in the display element. The organic electroluminescent element has a luminescent region having substantially the same size as that of a display area of the display element, and a pulse current is applied to the organic electroluminescent element to cause light emission.

In the display device according to (9), a rise in the temperature of the element due to the accumulation of heat in the organic electroluminescent element can be suppressed, and a decrease in luminance, namely, a decrease in the brightness of a display image, can be suppressed.

(10) A display device includes a light source comprising a first organic

electroluminescent element for emitting light in a red color range, a second organic electroluminescent element for emitting light in a green color range, and a third organic electroluminescent element for emitting light in a blue color range; first, second, and third display elements illuminated by their corresponding organic electroluminescent elements; a combining optical system for combining images displayed in the first, second, and third display elements; and an optical system for enlarging and displaying the image combined by the combining optical system. The first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements have luminescent regions with substantially the same sizes as those of display areas of the first, second, and third display elements, respectively, and a pulse current is applied to each of the first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements to cause light emission.

The display device according to (10) is particularly suitable for a display device in which the display image has high resolution. A rise in the temperature of the element due to the accumulation of heat in the organic electroluminescent elements as the light source can be suppressed, and a decrease in luminance, namely, a decrease in the brightness of the display image, can be suppressed.

(11) A display device includes a light source comprising a first organic electroluminescent element for emitting light in a red color range, a second organic electroluminescent element for emitting light in a green color range, and a third organic electroluminescent element for emitting light in a blue color range; a combining optical system for combining light emitted from the individual organic electroluminescent elements; a display element illuminated by the light combined by the combining optical system; and an optical system for enlarging and displaying the image displayed in the display element. The first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements have luminescent regions with substantially the same size as that of the display area of the

display element, respectively, and a pulse current is applied to each of the first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements to cause light emission.

In the display device according to (11), a color image is projected using a single display element. A rise in the temperature of the element due to the accumulation of heat in the organic electroluminescent elements as the light source can be suppressed, and a decrease in luminance, namely, a decrease in the brightness of the display image, can be suppressed.

(12) In a display device according to any one of (9) to (11), the display element is a liquid crystal display element.

In the above display device, high-resolution display in a simple structure is enabled.

(13) In a display device according to any one of (9) to (11), in order to adjust the luminance of the organic electroluminescent elements, at least one of the peak current, the frequency, and the pulse width of the pulse current is controlled.

In the above display device, a decrease in the luminance of the light source is compensated for so that the luminance can be maintained for a certain period of time.

(14) In a display device according to (10) or (11), in order to adjust the color of the display image, at least one of the peak current, the frequency, and the pulse width of the pulse current applied to each of the first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements is controlled independently.

In the above display device, the luminance of the light source for each color can be adjusted independently, and thus the color balance can be adjusted.

(15) In a display device according to (9) to (14), the organic electroluminescent elements have optical micro-resonator structures.

In the above display device, the purity of colors in the display image can be increased and the utilization efficiency of light can be improved.

(16) In a display device according to (10) or (11), a pulse is applied to each of the first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements with the same timing.

In the above display device, the balance of displayed color is improved.

Furthermore, in accordance with the present invention, display devices according to

(17) to (19) described below are provided.

(17) A display device includes a light source including a plurality of organic electroluminescent elements one-dimensionally or two-dimensionally arrayed on the same substrate, the plurality of organic electroluminescent elements emitting light simultaneously, a display element illuminated by the light source, and an optical system for enlarging and displaying an image displayed in the display element. A pulse current is applied to the organic electroluminescent elements in the light source to cause light emission.

(18) A display device includes a first light source including a plurality of first organic electroluminescent elements one-dimensionally or two-dimensionally arrayed on the same substrate for emitting light in a red color range, the plurality of organic electroluminescent elements emitting light simultaneously, a second light source including a plurality of second organic electroluminescent elements one-dimensionally or two-dimensionally arrayed on the same substrate for emitting light in a green color range, the plurality of organic electroluminescent elements emitting light simultaneously, a third light source including a plurality of third organic electroluminescent elements one-dimensionally or two-dimensionally arrayed on the same substrate for emitting light in a blue color range, the plurality of organic electroluminescent elements emitting light simultaneously, at least one display element illuminated by the light sources including the organic electroluminescent elements, and an optical system for enlarging and displaying an image formed by the display element. A pulse current is applied to each of the organic

electroluminescent elements so that the organic electroluminescent elements in the first light source, the organic electroluminescent elements in the second light source, and the third organic electroluminescent elements in the third light source emit light.

(19) In a display device according to (18), a pulse is applied to each of the first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements with the same timing.

In the display device according to any one of (17) to (19), advantages are achieved more remarkably, in that a rise in the temperature of the elements due to the accumulation of heat in the organic electroluminescent elements can be suppressed, and a decrease in luminance, namely, a decrease in the brightness of the display image, can be suppressed.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Fig. 1 is a sectional view showing a light source and a major optical system in a display device in accordance with a first embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a plan view showing the structure of the light source in accordance with the first embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 3 is a plan view showing a variation of the structure of the light source in accordance with the first embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 4 is a sectional view showing a major optical system in a display device in accordance with a second embodiment of the present invention.

Figs. 5A to 5D are diagrams which show current waveforms for operating organic EL elements constituting light sources in the display device in accordance with the second embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 6 is a diagram which shows a variation of timing of current waveforms for operating the organic EL elements as light sources in the display device in accordance with the second embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 7 is a sectional view which shows a major optical system in a display device in accordance with a third embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 8 is a sectional view which shows a major optical system in a display device in accordance with a fourth embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 9 is a sectional view which shows a major optical system in a display device in accordance with a fifth embodiment of the present invention.

Best Mode for Carrying Out the Invention

Embodiments of light sources and display devices in the present invention will now be described with reference to the drawings.

First, a first embodiment will be described based on Figs. 1 and 2. Fig. 1 is a sectional view of a major optical system constituting a projection liquid crystal display device as a display device in accordance with this embodiment, and Fig. 2 is a plan view showing the structure of a light source comprising organic EL elements. Although only 7 pieces across and 5 pieces down of luminescent sections 20 comprising organic EL elements are depicted to facilitate viewing in Fig. 2, the actual array comprises many more luminescent sections.

In the structure shown in Fig. 1, a liquid crystal display element 11R for displaying a red-component image, a liquid crystal display element 11G for displaying a green-component image, and a liquid crystal display element 11B for displaying a blue-component image are disposed opposite to the corresponding faces of a dichroic prism 16.

A red EL light source 10R comprising red organic EL elements, which are two-dimensionally arrayed, for emitting light at a wavelength in the red range is disposed at the rear of the liquid crystal display element 11R for displaying the red-component image, a green EL light source 10G comprising green organic EL elements, which are two-

dimensionally arrayed, for emitting light at a wavelength in the green range is disposed at the rear of the liquid crystal display element 11G for displaying the green-component image, and a blue EL light source 10B comprising blue organic EL elements, which are two-dimensionally arrayed, for emitting light at a wavelength in the blue range is disposed at the rear of the liquid crystal display element 11B for displaying the blue-component image.

Images displayed in the individual liquid crystal display elements are illuminated by the EL light sources for emitting light of the corresponding colors, and a color image is combined by the dichroic prism 16. The color image is enlarged by a projection lens 17 and projected to a screen 18 as an enlarged image.

As shown in Fig. 2, each light source has a layered structure including an ITO electrode 13 composed of an ITO (indium tin oxide) thin film formed on a glass substrate 12, an organic luminescent layer 14 having a layered structure including organic thin films, such as a hole-transporting layer, a luminescent layer, and an electron-transporting layer, and a metal electrode 15 composed of, for example, an alloy containing Mg (magnesium) and Ag (silver). The above layered structure is sealed with another substrate so as to avoid being brought into contact with moisture and dust.

Each of the ITO electrode 13 and the metal electrode 15 has a striped pattern and both patterns are orthogonal to each other. In each light source, sections at which the pattern of the ITO electrode 13 and the pattern of the metal electrode 15 intersect with each other correspond to luminescent sections 19. The ITO electrode 13 acts as an anode, the metal electrode 15 acts as a cathode, and a current is fed to the organic luminescent layer 14 by a voltage applied between the two electrodes, and thus the light source emits light.

The patterns of the ITO electrode, the organic luminescent layer, and the metal

electrode are not limited to those described above, and any pattern in which the luminescent sections 19 are two-dimensionally arrayed with a separation therebetween may be advantageously used.

A dielectric multilayered film, in which, preferably, SiO_2 and TiO_2 are deposited in turn, is formed between the glass substrate 12 and the ITO electrode 13. By constructing an optical micro-resonator with the dielectric multilayered film and the metal electrode 15, light emitted from the luminescent section 19 can be set to have a sharp peak at a specific wavelength (for example, at 620 nm in the red organic EL element, at 535 nm in the green organic EL element, and at 470 nm in the blue organic EL element) and to have strong directivity toward the front. By using such organic EL elements, the purity of color displayed in the display device can be increased and a bright display device, in which the light loss while passing through the optical system is decreased, can be obtained.

As the light source emit lights, heat is generated at the luminescent sections 19 and heat is generated by a current flowing through the ITO electrode 13 and the metal electrode 15. When the ITO electrode, the organic luminescent layer, and the metal electrode are formed entirely over the region having substantially the same area as the display area in the liquid crystal display element, there is no escape for the heat, and a large accumulation of heat occurs in the glass substrate, or the like. On the other hand, by discretely arraying the luminescent sections as is done in this embodiment, the accumulation of heat is relieved, and a rise in the temperature of the organic EL elements can be relieved. Accordingly, it is possible to suppress the deterioration of the organic EL element as the light source.

Furthermore, although not shown in the drawing, it may be effective to provide, for example, a highly conductive thick film of aluminum, copper, gold, silver, or the like on the metal electrode 15 with an insulating film therebetween to form a heat dissipation path.

In particular, a heat-transfer line is preferably provided in a space between the luminescent sections 19 to form the heat dissipation path.

In the liquid crystal display element, in order to illuminate the display area that extends two-dimensionally, it is preferable that the luminance of light emitted from the luminescent sections which are discretely spatially disposed be made spatially uniform. For that purpose, a distance D between the luminescent sections 19 and the display surface of a liquid crystal display element 11 is increased in relation to a distance P between the adjacent luminescent sections 19 in the light source. For example, D is preferably set at 10 times P or more.

Next, specific numerical examples will be described. With respect to each of the liquid crystal display elements 11R, 11G, and 11B, the size of the display area thereof is set at 0.9 inch measured diagonally (18.3 mm in width and 13.7 mm in length). In each of the EL light sources 10R, 10G, and 10B, the distance P between the adjacent luminescent sections 19 (distance between the centers of the adjacent luminescent sections 19) is set at 0.3 mm, and the width of each of the ITO electrode 13 and the metal electrode 15 having a striped pattern is set at 0.1 mm. In such a case, the luminescent section 19 has a size of 0.1 mm \times 0.1 mm. In order to uniformly illuminate up to the periphery of the display area, the region in which the luminescent sections 19 lie must be larger than the display area. For example, the size of the luminescent region is set at 20 mm in width and 15 mm in length. The region contains approximately 66 \times 50 pieces of the luminescent sections 19. The thickness of the glass substrate 12 in each EL light source is set at 1 mm. The distance D between the luminescent sections 19 and the surface of each of the liquid crystal display elements 11R, 11G, and 11B is required to be set to 10 times the distance P between the adjacent luminescent sections 19 or more, and for example, is set at 3.5 mm.

The display device of the present invention may be applicable to a head mounted

display and a head-up display, in addition to the projection liquid crystal display device described above in the first embodiment. Furthermore, a display element other than the liquid crystal display element may be employed. Although the light sources for emitting light in red, green, and blue are used in the embodiment, it may be possible to construct a display device using one or two light sources of the red, green, and blue EL light sources, depending on the color to be displayed.

In the present invention, a light source comprises an array of organic EL elements. Although the light source in which organic EL elements are two-dimensionally arrayed is described in the first embodiment, by one-dimensionally arraying organic EL elements depending on the application, a structure in which luminescent sections (regions) 19' are one-dimensionally arrayed, as shown in Fig. 3, may be employed. In such a case, in comparison with the case in which luminescent sections are two-dimensionally arrayed, the luminance of the entire light source is increased, and heat dissipation from the organic EL elements can be secured. In this case, more preferably, a heat-transfer region with high heat-transfer material is also provided in a space in the luminescent regions to form a heat dissipation path.

As described above, the light source in accordance with the first embodiment of the present invention comprises an array of organic EL elements which are discretely arrayed so as not to impair the spatial uniformity of illumination light of the display element, and thereby the accumulation of heat generated during light emission can be suppressed and the deterioration of the light source can be suppressed. By using such a light source, a compact display device having a reduced decrease in brightness can be obtained.

Next, a display device (projection liquid crystal display device) in accordance with a second embodiment of the present invention will be described with reference to Fig. 4 and Figs. 5A to 5D. Fig. 4 is a sectional view showing a major optical system constituting

a projection liquid crystal display device, and Figs. 5A to 5D are diagrams which show waveforms of pulse currents applied to organic EL elements as light sources to cause light emission.

The structure of the optical system shown in Fig. 4 is substantially the same as that of the display device in the first embodiment. A liquid crystal display element 21R for displaying a red-component image, a liquid crystal display element 21G for displaying a green-component image, and a liquid crystal display element 21B for displaying a blue-component image are disposed opposite to the corresponding faces of a dichroic prism 22. A red organic EL element 20R for emitting light at a wavelength in the red range is disposed at the rear of the liquid crystal display element 21R for displaying the red-component image, a green organic EL element 20G for emitting light at a wavelength in the green range is disposed at the rear of the liquid crystal display element 21G for displaying the green-component image, and a blue organic EL element 20B for emitting light at a wavelength in the blue range is disposed at the rear of the liquid crystal display element 21B for displaying the blue-component image. Images displayed in the individual liquid crystal display elements are illuminated by the corresponding organic EL elements, and a color image is combined by the dichroic prism 22. The color image is enlarged by a projection lens 23 and projected to a screen 24.

The luminescent region is formed uniformly over the entire surface of each organic EL element in this embodiment, and the structure of a luminescent layer preferably includes an optical micro-resonator structure. Due to the optical micro-resonator structure, light having a narrow-band spectrum with a peak at a specific wavelength (for example, at 620 nm in red, at 535 nm in green, and at 470 nm in blue) can be emitted, and also the directivity of the emitted light can be strengthened toward the front by the element. A color image having high purity can be displayed by the narrow-band emission spectrum,

and the quantity of light which can pass through a projection lens is increased by the strong directivity, and thus a bright image can be displayed.

In particular, in this embodiment, pulse current supply sources 25R, 25G, and 25B are connected to the organic EL elements 20R, 20G, and 20B, respectively, and each

5 organic EL element emits light in a pulsed form.

The size of the display area in each of the liquid crystal display elements 21R, 21G, and 21B is set, for example, at 0.9 inch measured diagonally, and in order to illuminate the area, the size of the luminescent region in each of the organic EL elements 20R, 20G and 20B is set, for example, at 1 inch measured diagonally. When the organic EL element
10 which emits light in such a large luminescent region is operated with a direct current, if a large amount of current is applied in order to produce emission at high luminance, heat is accumulated in the element, and the increased temperature of the element changes the structure of the luminescent material, resulting in a short life of the element. Therefore, it is effective to prevent the accumulation of heat by pulsed operation of the element in order
15 to prolong the life.

The time-averaged luminance of the pulsed-operation organic EL element is the product obtained by multiplying the luminance determined by a peak current of one pulse by the duty of the pulse (the ratio of the period of time for applying the current to the pulse period).

20 The frequency of the pulse current must be increased to such an extent that flickering is not observed, and is set, for example, at approximately 100 Hz. Fig. 5A shows an example of a waveform of the pulse current, in which the peak current I_0 is 0.5 A, the frequency is 100 Hz (period 10 msec), and the duty of the pulse is 50% (pulse width 5 msec).

25 Since the display device is provided with red, green, and blue organic EL elements,

in order to balance the individual colors, the luminance of the individual organic EL elements must be adjusted. While the display device is used, the luminance of the organic EL elements decreases, and since the degree of the decrease in luminance differs among the individual organic EL elements, a way to independently adjust the luminance of the individual organic EL elements is required, although it is not shown in the drawing.

Since each EL element is pulse-operated, it is possible to adjust the luminance by adjusting the peak current of the pulse current or by adjusting the duty of the pulse.

Figs. 5A to 5D show examples for the above. A pulse current shown in Fig. 5A is considered as a base. In an example shown in Fig. 5B, the period and the duty of the pulse are the same as those of the base, and by increasing the peak current I_1 to 0.6 A, the luminance is increased. In an example shown in Fig. 5C, the period of the pulse and the peak current are the same as those of the base, and by increasing the duty of the pulse from 50% to 70%, the luminance is increased. In an example shown in Fig. 5D, the peak current is the same as that of the base, and by decreasing the frequency of the pulse from 100 Hz to 70 Hz and by setting the duty at 80%, the luminance is increased.

Preferably, pulses are applied to the organic EL elements 20R, 20G, and 20B with the same frequency and with the same timing (phase). Fig. 6 shows an example of such timing at which pulses are applied. In such a case, the luminance is controlled by adjusting the peak values (peak currents I_R , I_G , and I_B) of the pulses applied to the red EL element (20R), the green EL element (20G), and the blue EL element (20B), respectively. In a display device employing such a method of applying pulses, in comparison with the case in which there is a shift in pulses, the degree of color separation is suppressed and the balance of displayed color is improved. Alternatively, with pulses of the same frequency being used, the pulse width may be changed depending on the individual colors R, G, and B to such an extent that visual observation is enabled.

A display device in accordance with a third embodiment of the present invention will be described with reference to Fig. 7. Fig. 7 is a sectional view showing a major optical system constituting a projection liquid crystal display device. The structure of this embodiment differs from that of the second embodiment in that only one liquid crystal display element 30 is provided.

A red organic EL element 20R for emitting light at a wavelength in the red range, a green organic EL element 20G for emitting light at a wavelength in the green range, and a blue organic EL element 20B for emitting light at a wavelength in the blue range are disposed opposite to the corresponding faces of a dichroic prism 22.

Light emitted from each of the organic EL elements is combined by the dichroic prism 22 and white light is produced. The liquid crystal display element 30, which is disposed opposite to the light-emitting face of the dichroic prism 22, is illuminated by the white light from behind. The liquid crystal display element 30 is provided with color filters in the pixels thereof, and a color image is displayed by the illumination of white light. The image displayed in the liquid crystal display element 30 is enlarged and projected to a screen 24 by a projection lens 23.

Pulse current supply sources 25R, 25G, and 25B are connected to the organic EL elements 20R, 20G, and 20B, respectively, and each organic EL element is pulse-operated and emits light in response to the applied pulse.

Since the display device is provided with red, green, and blue organic EL elements, in order to balance the individual colors, the luminance of the individual organic EL elements must be adjusted. While the display device is used, the luminance of the organic EL elements decreases, and since the degree of the decrease in luminance differs among the individual organic EL elements, a way to independently adjust the luminance of the individual organic EL elements is required.

Since each organic EL element is pulse-operated, as described in the second embodiment, it is possible to adjust the luminance by adjusting the peak current of the pulse current or by adjusting the duty of the pulse. It is also possible to improve the balance of displayed color by applying pulses to the organic EL elements 20R, 20G, and 20B with the same timing (phase).

A display device in accordance with a fourth embodiment of the present invention will be described with reference to Fig. 8. The display device in this embodiment is a head-up display in which an image of a liquid crystal element is superimposed on a forward view by a combiner provided on a windshield of a car, and Fig. 8 is a sectional view showing a major optical system thereof. The display device in the embodiment displays a green image only.

A liquid crystal display element 21G is illuminated by an organic EL element 20G for emitting green light which is pulse-operated by a pulse current supply source 25G. An image displayed in the liquid crystal display element 21G is superimposed on a forward view 45 by an optical system including a relay lens 40, a mirror 41, and a concave holographic combiner 42 and appears in the space in front of the holographic combiner.

The organic EL element 20G is provided with a micro-resonator in the structure of a luminescent layer thereof, and can emit light having a narrow-band spectrum with a peak at a specific wavelength (for example, at 535 nm). Since the holographic combiner 42 is a holographic element, the optical properties thereof are sensitive to changes in wavelength, and the occurrence of aberrations can be suppressed as the emission spectrum of the light source is narrowed. From this viewpoint, the combination of the holographic combiner and the organic EL element having the micro-resonator structure is advantageous in the head-up display.

A display device in accordance with a fifth embodiment of the present invention

will be described with reference to Fig. 9. The display device in this embodiment is a head-up display in which an image of a liquid crystal element is superimposed on a forward view by a combiner in a similar manner to that of the fifth embodiment, and Fig. 9 is a sectional view showing a major optical system thereof. The head-up display of this embodiment displays a color image.

A section for producing a display image, which has the same structure as that in the second embodiment, includes liquid crystal display elements 21R, 21G, and 21B corresponding to the three primary colors disposed around a dichroic prism 22, and a red organic EL element 20R, a green organic EL element 20G, and a blue EL element 20B which are disposed at the rear thereof, respectively. The individual organic EL elements are pulse-operated by pulse current supply sources 25R, 25G, and 25B.

A color image combined by the dichroic prism 22 is superimposed on a forward view 45 by an optical system comprising a relay lens 50, a mirror 51, and a concave holographic combiner 52 and appears in the space in front of the holographic combiner.

Each of the three organic EL elements 20R, 20G, and 20B is provided with a micro-resonator in the structure of a luminescent layer thereof, and light having a narrow-band spectrum with a peak at a specific wavelength (for example, at 620 nm, 535 nm, and 470 nm) can be emitted. By constructing the holographic combiner 52 with the combination of holographic elements in which the reflection properties are optimized for the individual wavelengths, light having three wavelengths from the individual organic EL elements is reflected, and light having wavelengths in the other ranges is transmitted. In the combiner thus designed, the reflectance with respect to light of a display image 53 is increased and the transmittance with respect to light of a forward view 45 is increased, and thus it is possible to produce display by superimposing a bright display image on a bright forward view.

Although the combination of a holographic combiner and a relay lens is used as the optical system for displaying an image of the liquid crystal display element in the space in front in the fourth and fifth embodiments, it may be also possible to employ an optical system in which a combiner comprising a dielectric multilayered film having a high reflectance for a specific wavelength and an appropriate lens system are combined.

Next, a display device in accordance with a sixth embodiment of the present invention will be described. The basic structure of the display device of this embodiment is the same as that shown in Fig. 4 in the second embodiment. A difference between the two is in the internal structures of light sources comprising organic EL elements (20R, 20G, and 20B). That is, in this embodiment, each of the organic EL elements constituting the light sources has a structure comprising one-dimensional luminescent sections in a striped pattern as shown in Fig. 3, and pulse operation is performed by the pulse current supply sources (25R, 25G, and 25B) connected to the individual EL elements shown in Fig. 4.

In the light source in this embodiment, the luminescent sections of the organic EL elements are discretely arrayed, and a passage for dissipating heat generated during the emission of the EL elements is formed. The organic EL elements generate heat intermittently because the elements are pulse-operated, and the accumulation of heat of the entire light source resulting from the array of the EL elements can be greatly prevented.

Moreover, in the display device, the life of the light source can be prolonged, and display with stable luminance can be produced.

Additionally, in this embodiment, although the one-dimensional striped pattern is used for the luminescent sections comprising the organic EL elements in the light sources, it is possible to use a light source in which luminescent sections are two-dimensionally arrayed as shown in Fig. 2 as employed in the first embodiment. Furthermore, in pulsed

operation, preferably, pulses are applied to the light sources comprising the organic EL elements (20R, 20G, and 20B) with the same frequency and with the same timing (phase) as shown in Fig. 6. In such a case, the luminance can be controlled by adjusting the peak values (peak currents I_R , I_G , and I_B) of the pulses. In a display device employing such a method of applying pulses, in comparison with the case in which there is a shift in pulses, the degree of color separation is lowered and the balance of displayed color is further improved. Alternatively, with the pulses with the same frequency being used, the pulse width may be changed depending on the individual colors R, G, and B to such an extent that visual observation is enabled.

Although the combination of the array of the organic EL elements in the light sources and the pulse operation in this embodiment is employed in the structure shown in Fig. 4 in which a liquid crystal display element is provided for a light source of each color, the feature may also be applicable to the structure as shown in Fig. 7 in which combined light from the light sources of the individual colors is applied to one liquid crystal display element.

As described above, in the second to sixth embodiments, although three liquid crystal display elements and three organic EL elements for displaying red, green, and blue, respectively, are used in order to produce color display, it may be possible to construct a display device using the combination of only two colors, such as red and green.

The present invention is not limited to the second to sixth embodiments, and is applicable to display devices using organic EL elements as light sources, and also is applicable to display devices such as viewfinders of video cameras in which an enlarged virtual image of a liquid crystal display element is viewed through a lens. As the display element, instead of the liquid crystal display element, a spatial light modulator in which, in particular, transmitted light can be modulated may be used.

In accordance with the display devices of the second to sixth embodiments, with respect to display devices in which display elements are illuminated using organic EL elements, each for emitting light of red, green, or blue with high luminance, the deterioration of the organic EL elements due to the accumulation of heat can be suppressed, and the color balance between the individual organic EL elements can be adjusted by controlling the peak current and the duty of the pulse current.

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CLAIMS

1. A light source comprising a plurality of organic electroluminescent elements one-dimensionally or two-dimensionally arrayed on the same substrate, wherein the plurality of organic electroluminescent elements emit light simultaneously.
- 5 2. A light source according to Claim 1, wherein the plurality of organic electroluminescent elements emit light of one primary color out of the three primary colors.
3. A light source according to one of Claims 1 and 2, the organic electroluminescent elements comprise optical micro-resonators.
- 10 4. A light source according to any one of Claims 1 to 3, wherein the organic electroluminescent elements are formed on the substrate at the intersections of an anode formed in a striped pattern in a first direction and a cathode formed in a striped pattern in a second direction orthogonal to the first direction.
5. A light source according to any one of Claims 1 to 3, wherein luminescent sections are
15 one-dimensionally arrayed on the substrate.
6. A display device for illuminating a display element by a light source according to any one of Claims 1 to 5.
7. A display device according to Claim 6, wherein D is 10 times P or more, where P is a distance between the adjacent organic electroluminescent elements and D is a distance
20 between each organic electroluminescent element and the display surface of the display element.
8. A display device according to one of Claims 6 and 7, wherein the display element is a liquid crystal display element.
9. A display device comprising a light source comprising an organic electroluminescent
25 element, a display element illuminated by the light source, and an optical system for

enlarging and displaying an image displayed in the display element, wherein the organic electroluminescent element has a luminescent region having substantially the same size as that of a display area of the display element, and a pulse current is applied to the organic electroluminescent element to cause light emission.

- 5 10. A display device comprising a light source comprising a first organic electroluminescent element for emitting light in a red color range, a second organic electroluminescent element for emitting light in a green color range, and a third organic electroluminescent element for emitting light in a blue color range; first, second and third display elements illuminated by their corresponding organic electroluminescent elements; 10 a combining optical system for combining images displayed in the first, second, and third display elements; and an optical system for enlarging and displaying the image combined by the combining optical system, wherein the first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements have luminescent regions with substantially the same sizes as those of display areas of the first second, and third display elements, respectively, and a 15 pulse current is applied to each of the first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements to cause light emission.

11. A display device comprising a light source comprising a first organic electroluminescent element for emitting light in a red color range, a second organic electroluminescent element for emitting light in a green color range, and a third organic 20 electroluminescent element for emitting light in a blue color range; a combining optical system for combining light emitted from the individual organic electroluminescent elements; a display element illuminated by the light combined by the combining optical system; and an optical system for enlarging and displaying the image displayed in the display element, wherein the first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements 25 have luminescent regions with substantially the same size as that of the display area of the

display element, respectively, and a pulse current is applied to each of the first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements to cause light emission.

12. A display device according to any one of Claims 9 to 11, wherein the display element is a liquid crystal display element.

5 13. A display device according to any one of Claims 9 to 11, wherein at least one of the peak current, the frequency, and the pulse width of the pulse current is controlled in order to adjust the luminance of the organic electroluminescent elements.

10 14. A display device according to one of Claims 10 and 11, wherein at least one of the peak current, the frequency, and the pulse width of the pulse current applied to each of the first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements is controlled independently in order to adjust the color of the display image.

15 15. A display device according to any one of Claims 9 to 14, wherein the organic electroluminescent elements have optical micro-resonator structures.

16 16. A display device according to one of Claims 10 and 11, wherein a pulse is applied to each of the first, second, and third organic electroluminescent elements with the same timing.

20 17. A display device comprising a light source comprising a plurality of organic electroluminescent elements one-dimensionally or two-dimensionally arrayed on the same substrate, the plurality of organic electroluminescent elements emitting light simultaneously, a display element illuminated by the light source, and an optical system for enlarging and displaying an image displayed in the display element, wherein a pulse current is applied to the organic electroluminescent elements in the light source to cause light emission.

25 18. A display device comprising a first light source comprising a plurality of first organic electroluminescent elements one-dimensionally or two-dimensionally arrayed on

the same substrate for emitting light in a red color range, the plurality of organic electroluminescent elements emitting light simultaneously, a second light source comprising a plurality of second organic electroluminescent elements one-dimensionally or two-dimensionally arrayed on the same substrate for emitting light in a green color
5 range, the plurality of organic electroluminescent elements emitting light simultaneously, a third light source comprising a plurality of third organic electroluminescent elements one-dimensionally or two-dimensionally arrayed on the same substrate for emitting light in a blue color range, the plurality of organic electroluminescent elements emitting light simultaneously, at least one display element illuminated by the light sources comprising
10 the organic electroluminescent elements, and an optical system for enlarging and displaying an image formed by the display element, wherein a pulse current is applied to each of the organic electroluminescent elements so that the organic electroluminescent elements in the first light source, the organic electroluminescent elements in the second light source, and the third organic electroluminescent elements in the third light source
15 emit light.

19. A display device according to Claim 18, wherein a pulse is applied to each of the first, second, and third organic-electroluminescent elements with the same timing.

ABSTRACT

At the rear of liquid crystal display elements 11R, 11G, and 11B, each for displaying one component of a primary color, a red EL light source 10R, a green EL light source 10G and a blue EL light source 10B for emitting red color light, green color light, and blue color light are disposed, respectively. Each EL light source includes an organic EL element in which an organic thin film emits light. Each EL light source has a structure in which an organic luminescent layer 14 is sandwiched between an ITO electrode 13 and a metal electrode 15 which have striped patterns which are orthogonal to each other, and sections (luminescent sections) at which the striped patterns of the ITO electrode 13 and the metal electrode 15 intersect with each other emit light. The luminescent sections are arrayed two-dimensionally on a glass substrate 12 and illuminate the entire display area of the liquid crystal display element.

Fig. 1

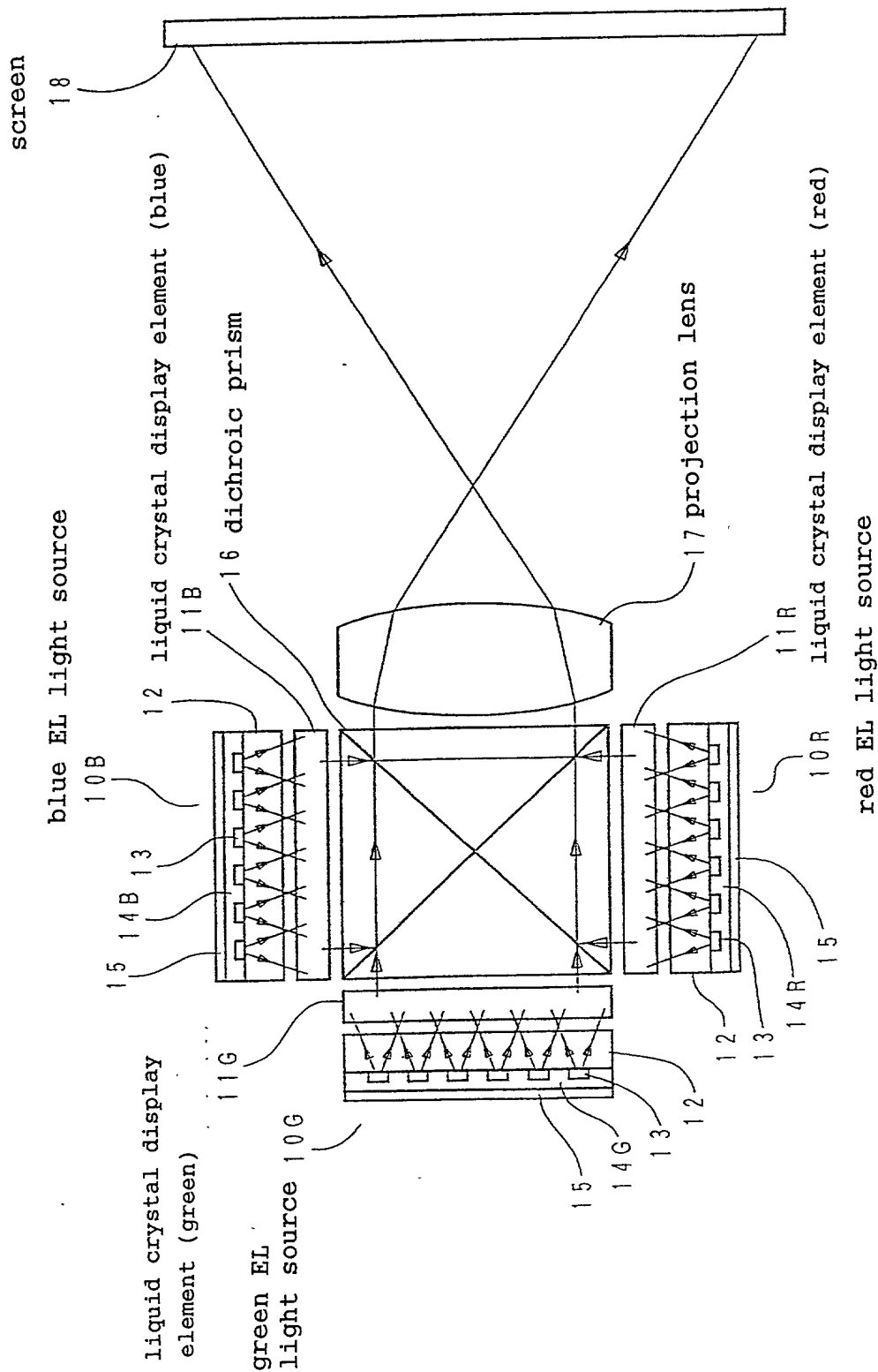


Fig. 2

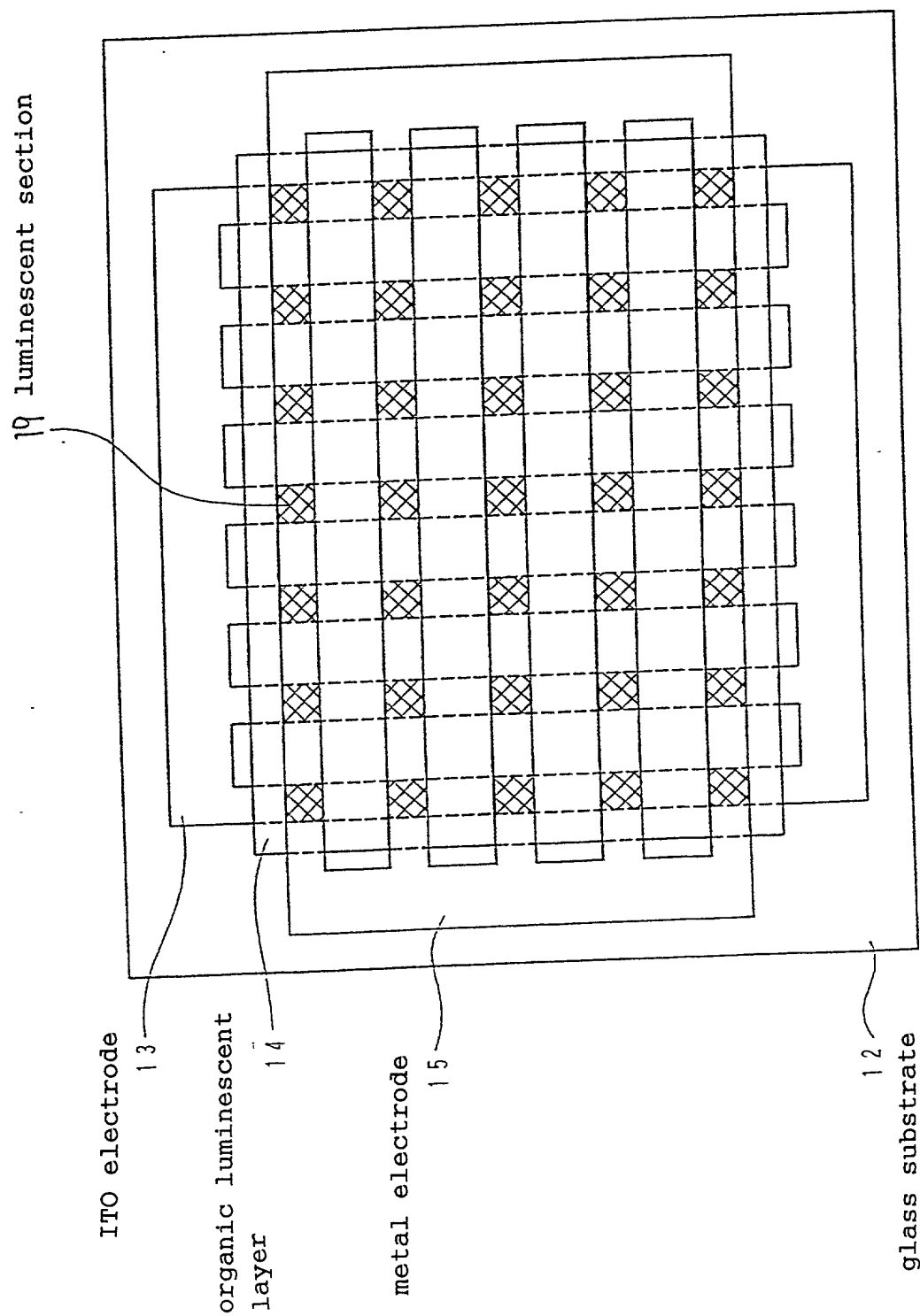


Fig. 3

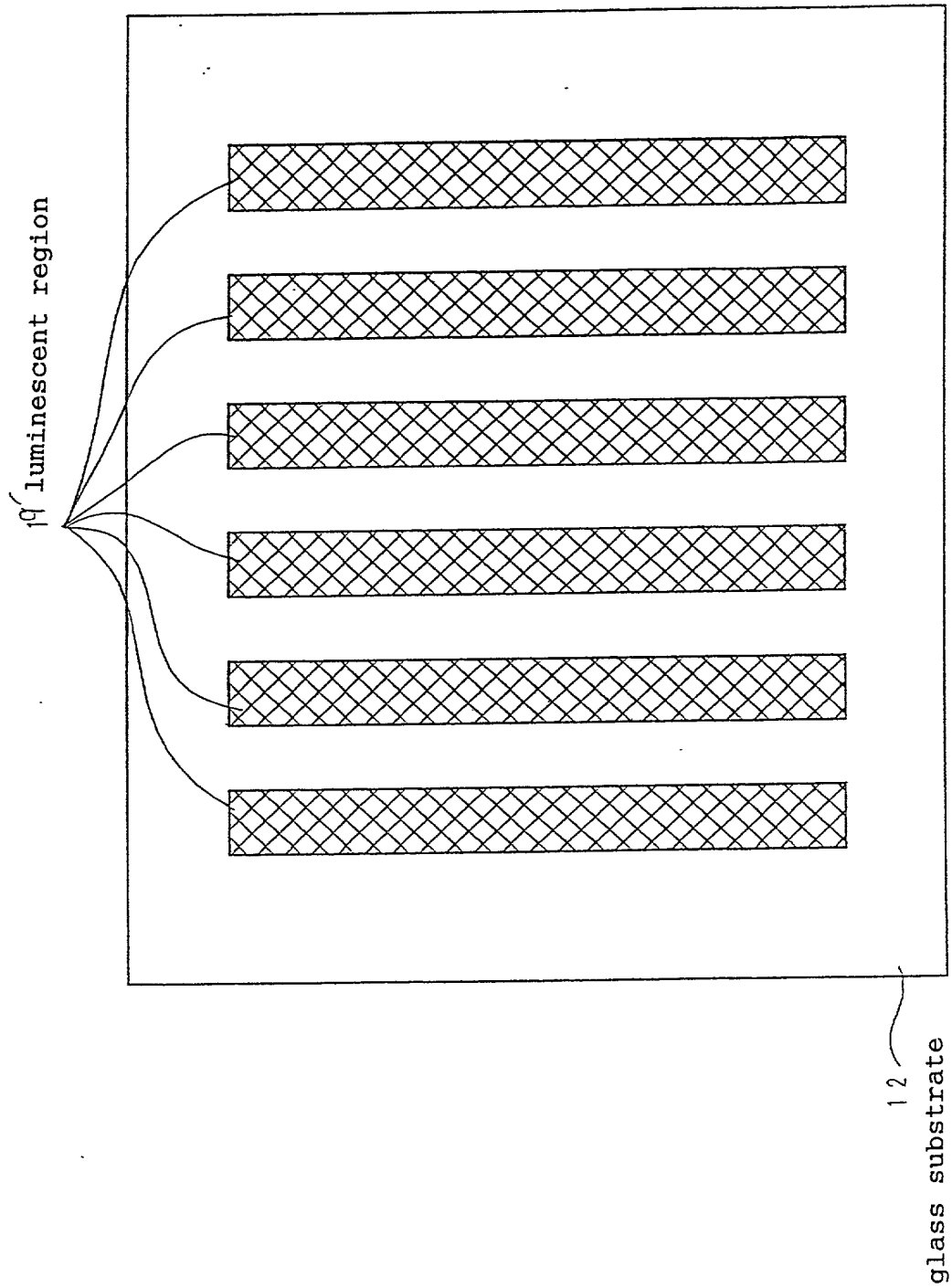
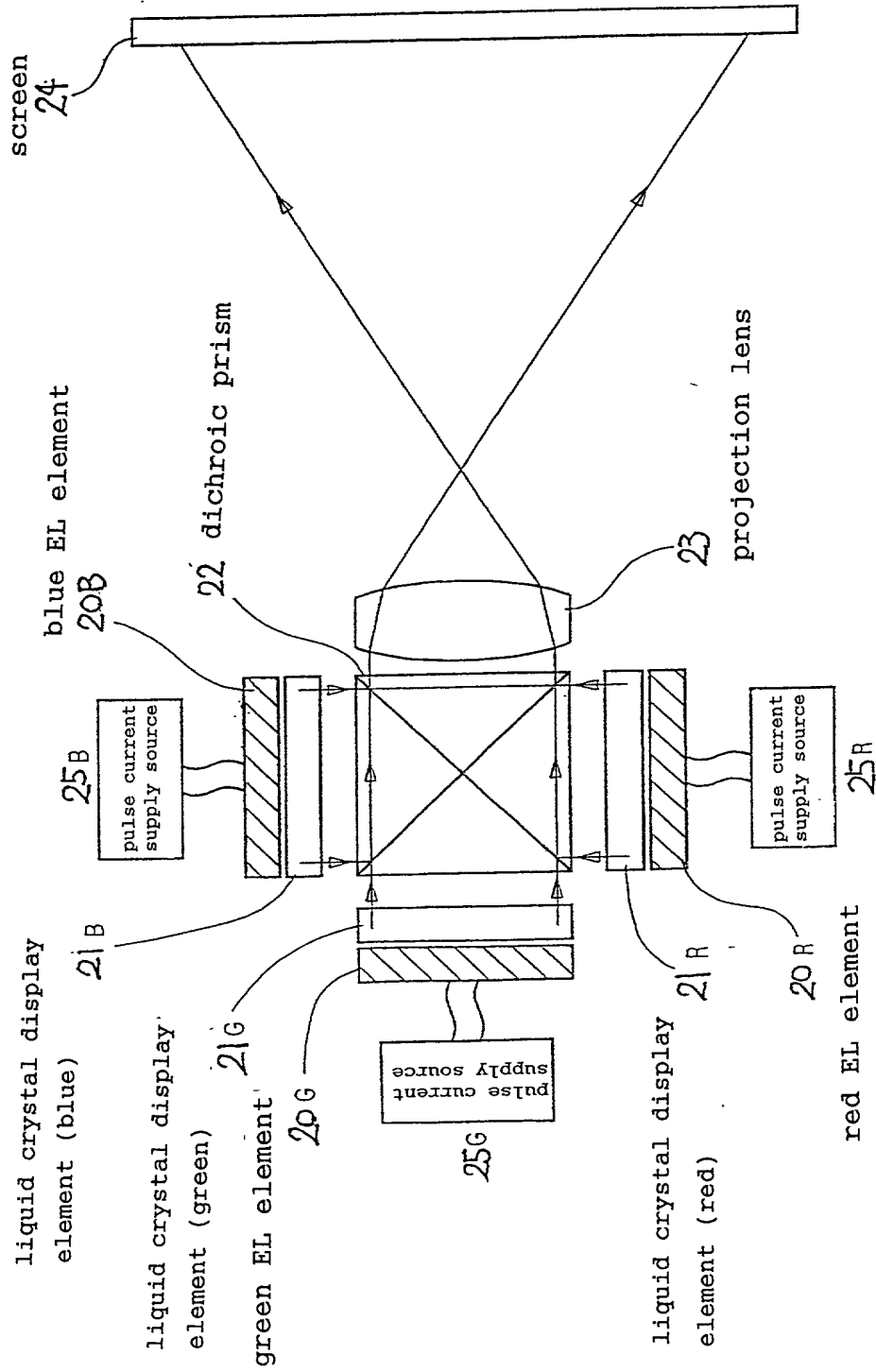


Fig. 4



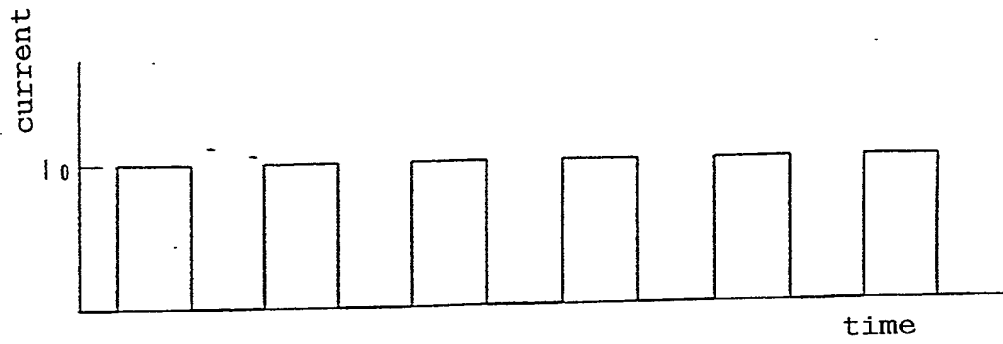


Fig. 5A

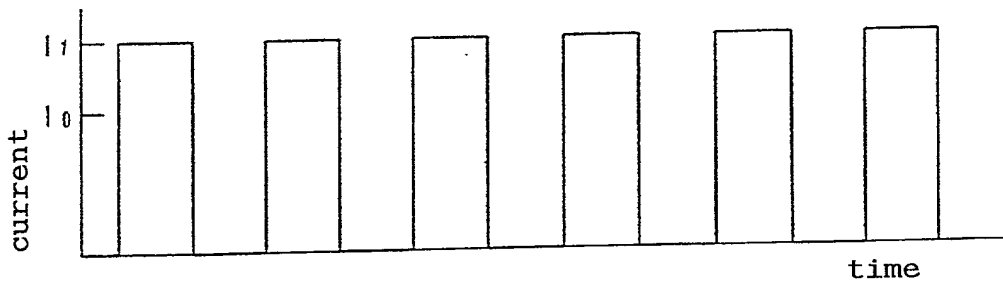


Fig. 5B

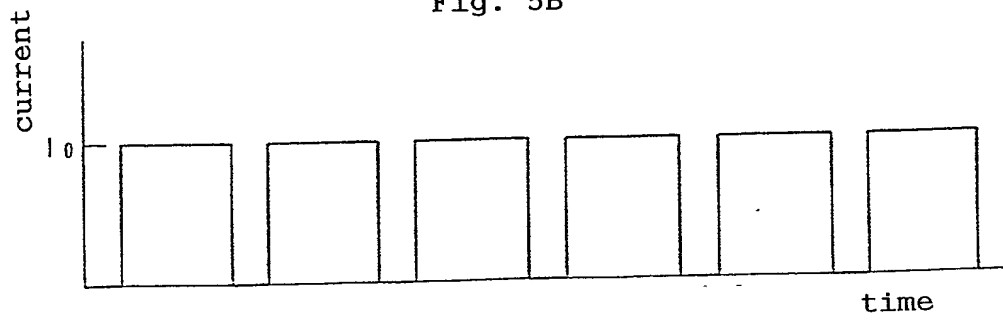


Fig. 5C

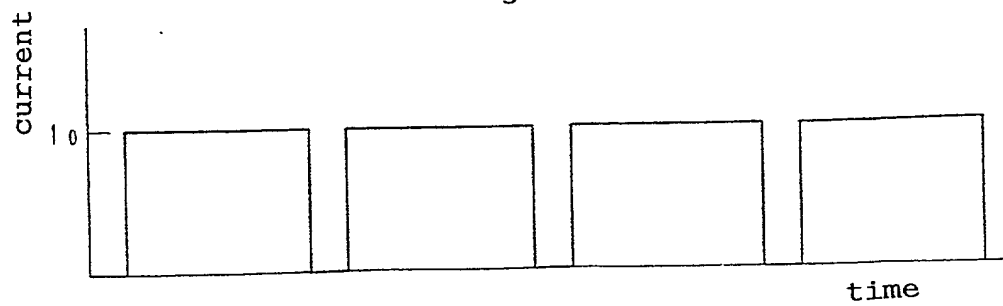


Fig. 5D

Fig. 6

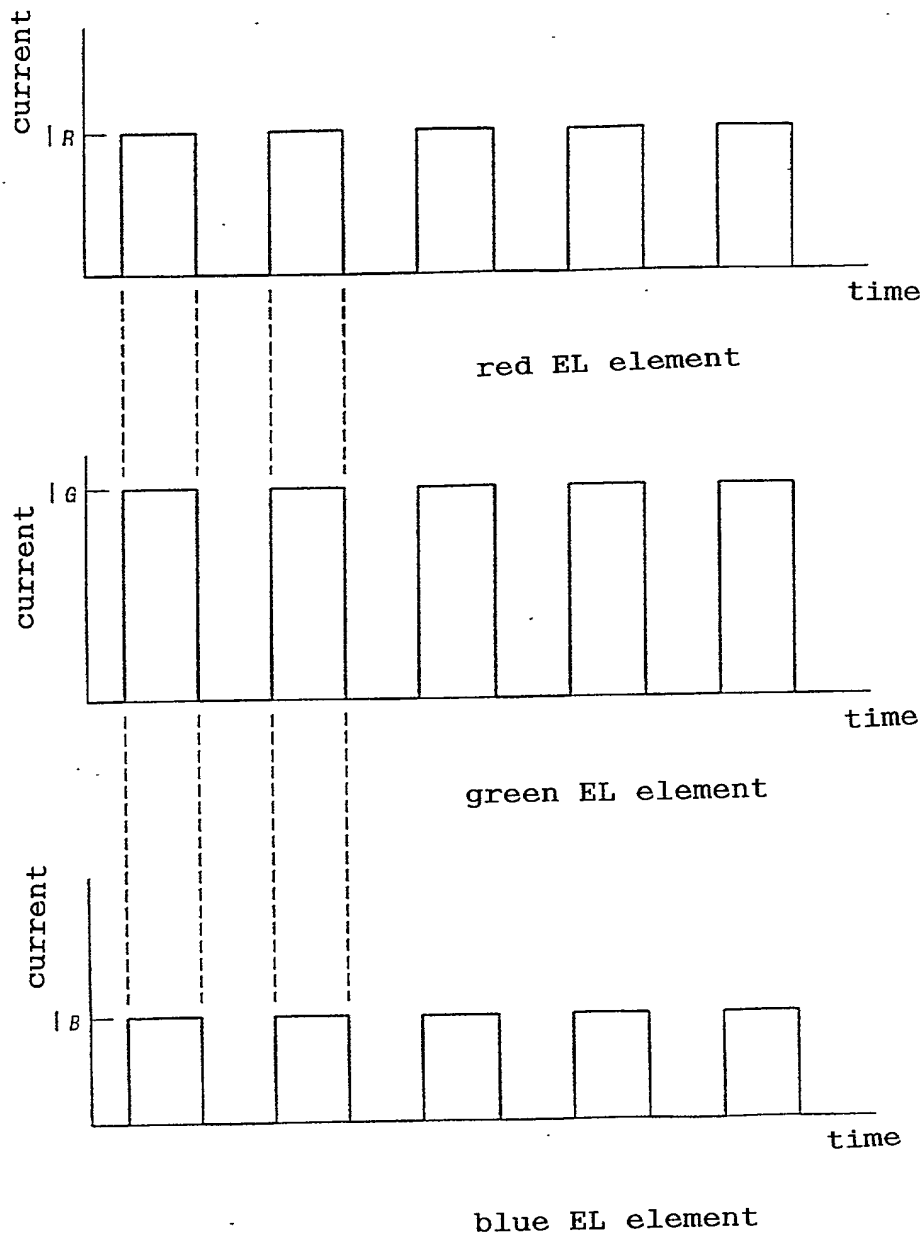


Fig. 7

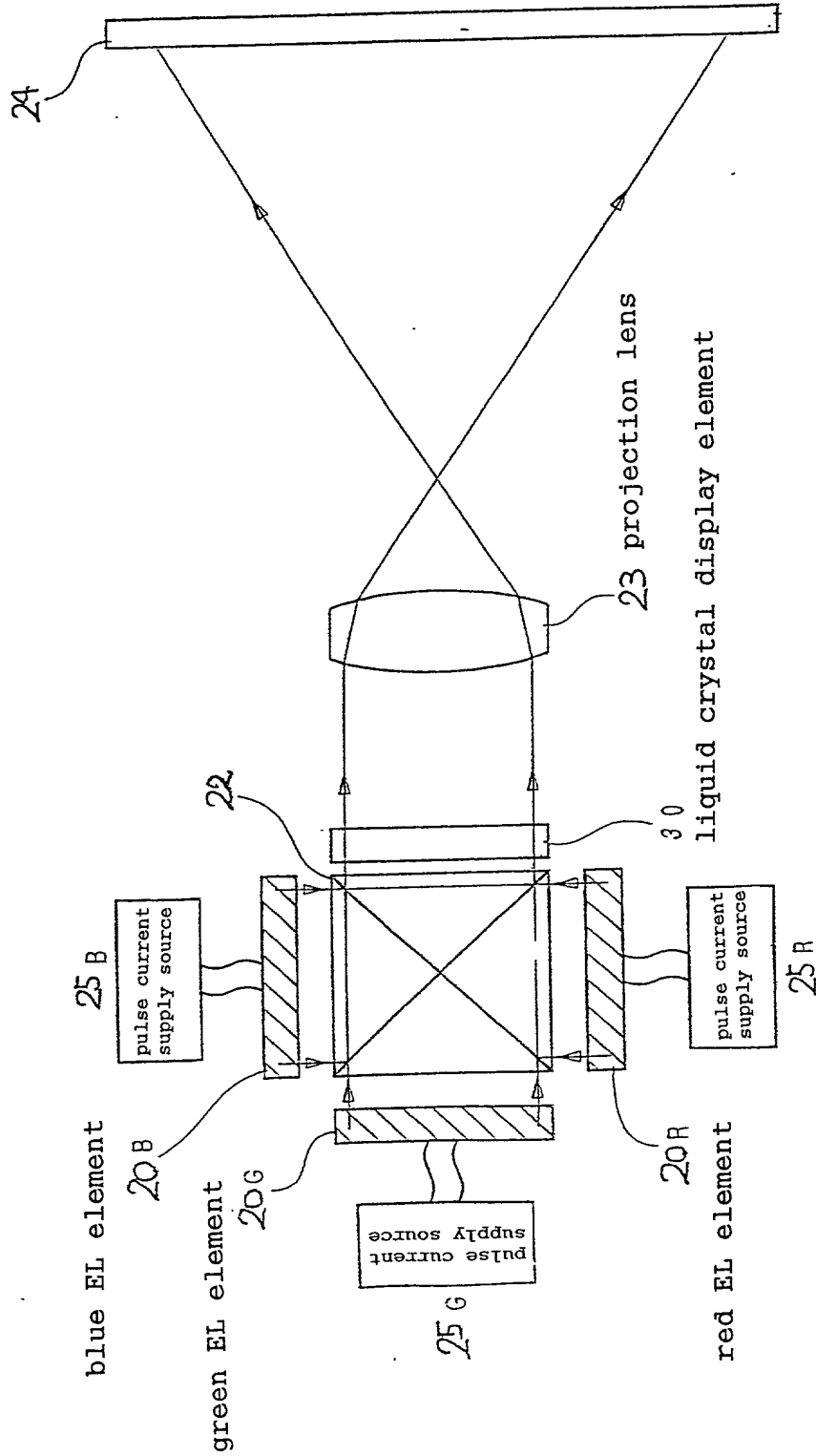


Fig. 8

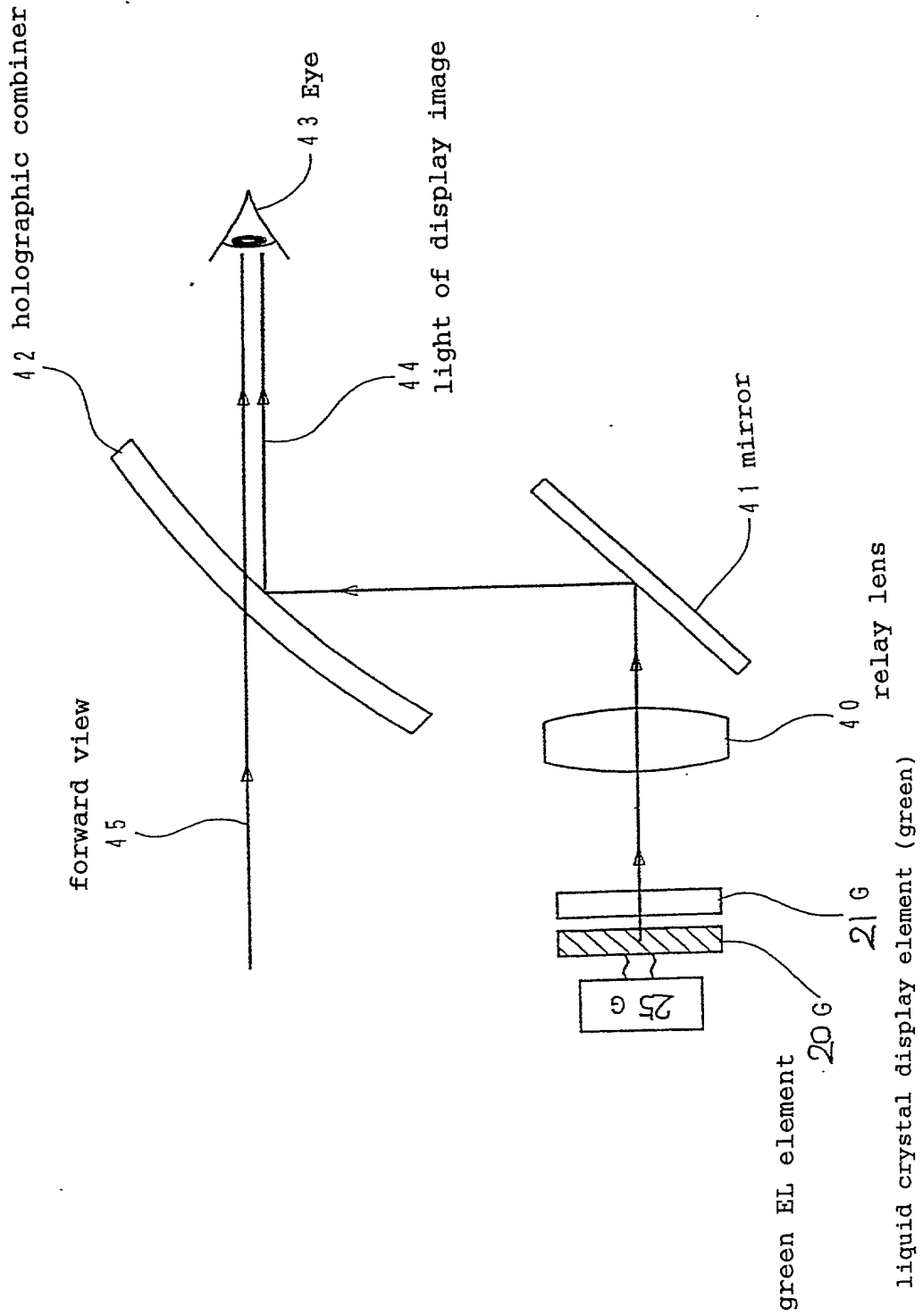
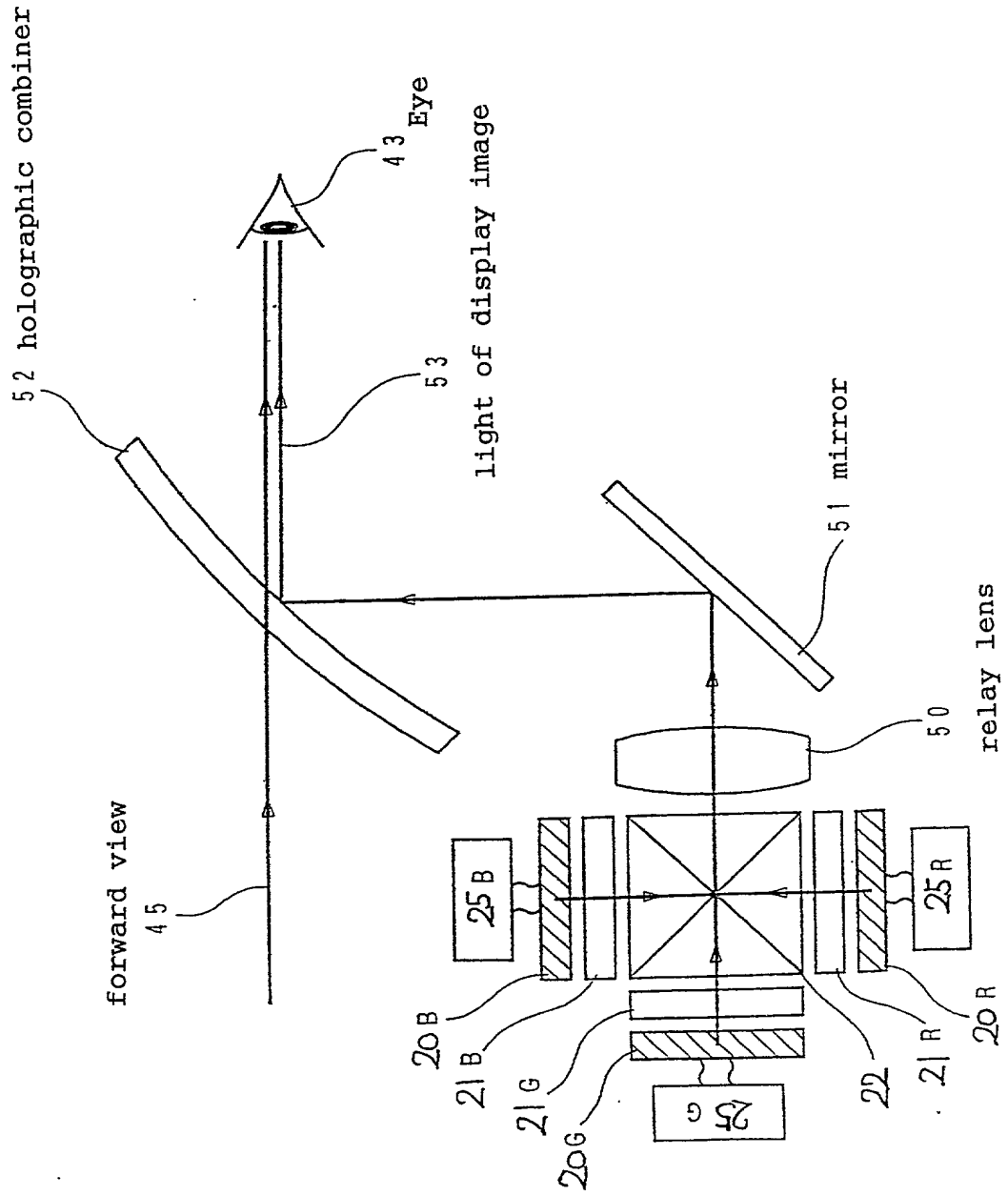


Fig. 9



Seiko Epson Ref. No.: F004669US00

Attorney's Ref. No.:

Declaration and Power of Attorney For Patent Application

特許出願宣言書及び委任状

Japanese Language Declaration

日本語宣言書

下記の氏名の発明者として、私は以下の通り宣言します。

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

私の住所、私書箱、国籍は、下記の私の氏名の後に記載された通りです。

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated next to my name.

下記の名称の発明に関して請求範囲に記載され、特許出願している発明内容について、私が最初かつ唯一の発明者（下記の氏名が一つの場合）もしくは最初かつ共同発明者であると（下記の名称が複数の場合）信じています。

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

光源及び表示装置LIGHT SOURCE AND DISPLAY DEVICE

上記発明の明細書（下記の欄で×印がついていない場合は、本書に添付）は、

the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following box is checked.

☐ _____に提出され、米国出願番号または
特許協定条約 国際出願番号を _____ とし、
(該当する場合) _____ に訂正されました。☐ was filed on _____
as United States Application Number or
PCT International Application Number
_____ and was amended on
_____ (if applicable).

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I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

私は、連邦規則法典第37編第1条56項に定義されるとおり、特許資格の有無について重要な情報を開示する義務があることを認めます。

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

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I hereby claim foreign priority under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 (a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s)

外国での先行出願

Priority Not Claimed

優先権主張なし

10-248773

Japan

02/September/1998

(Number)

(Country)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)

(番号)

(国名)

(出願年月日)

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(Application No.)

(出願番号)

(Filing Date)

(出願日)

(Application No.)

(出願番号)

(Filing Date)

(出願日)

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01/September/1999

Pending

(Application No.)

(出願番号)

(Filing Date)

(出願日)

(Status: Patented, Pending, Abandoned)

(現況: 特許許可済、係属中、放棄済)

(Application No.)

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横山 修

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発明者の署名

日付

横山 修

2000年4月6日

Inventor's signature

Date

Osamu Yokoyama

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宮下 悟

Full name of second joint inventor, if any

Satoru MIYASHITA

第二共同発明者の署名

日付

宮下 悟

2000年4月6日

Second inventor's signature

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(Supply similar information and signature for third and subsequent joint inventors.)

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3-00

Full name of third joint inventor, if any

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日付

下田 達也

2000年8月6日

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Date

Tatsuya Shimoda

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第四共同発明者

多賀 康訓

Full name of fourth joint inventor, if any

Yasunori TAGA

第四共同発明者の署名

日付

Fourth inventor's signature

Date

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Citizenship

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(第五以降の共同発明者についても同様に記載し、署名をすること)

(Supply similar information and signature for fifth and subsequent joint inventors.)

Japanese Language Declaration

(日本語宣言書)

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 (703) 836-6400

第五共同発明者

時任 静士

Full name of fifth joint inventor, if any

Shizuo TOKITO

第五共同発明者の署名

日付

Fifth inventor's signature

Date

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Residence

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Citizenship

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 41-1, Aza Yokomichi, Oaza Nagakute, Nagakute-cho,
 Aichi-gun, Aichi-ken 480-1192

第六共同発明者

野田 浩司

Full name of sixth joint inventor, if any

Koji NODA

第六共同発明者の署名

日付

Sixth inventor's signature

Date

住所

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Residence

_____, _____, Japan

国籍

日本

Citizenship

Japan

私書箱

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 Aichi-gun, Aichi-ken 480-1192

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Declaration and Power of Attorney For Patent Application

特許出願宣言書及び委任状

Japanese Language Declaration

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Full name of sole or first inventor

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